

To: dtaylor@nndoj.org[dtaylor@nndoj.org]
From: Mueller, Sarah
Sent: Wed 4/22/2015 8:12:44 PM
Subject: Haystack Mines area -- Section 13
[Haystack locations with Sections.pdf](#)
[Navajo Nation Map from Ryan James March 20 2015 \(2\).pdf](#)

Dave,

I am working with our Superfund program on addressing a group of mines in the area of Haystack No. 1 mine. It looks like the mines are contiguous and are located on four different parcels of land. We are trying to determine the status and jurisdiction for each parcel and are hoping you can provide some insight on one of the areas, Section 13. I am attaching several maps of the area.

One parcel (Section 19, T13N, R10W) appears to be on private property in New Mexico. Two parcels (Section 18, T13N, R10W and Section 24, T13N, R11W) appear to be on Indian allotment parcels. The fourth parcel is the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Section 13, T13N, R11W; the mine here is sometimes referred to as Bibo Trespass. I think this parcel has the same status as S $\frac{1}{2}$ N $\frac{1}{2}$ Section 13, but the mining area we are looking at is just in the SE $\frac{1}{4}$.

The information we have gathered indicates that this parcel is subject to withdrawal under Public Land Order 2198. It has also at one point been subject to withdrawal for the AEC under PLO 964, but PLO 964 was revoked in 1994 by PLO 7091. My understanding is that PLO 2198 was intended to facilitate land consolidation for the Navajo Nation, but that an act of Congress is required to actually make this happen. I haven't found any information on such legislation, so I am assuming none has been passed. Our information indicates that BIA administers this land, although we have seen other documents that suggest that BLM administers it or has some type of jurisdiction there. In addition, a map that we have received from Navajo Lands department shows this area to be part of Navajo Indian Country. As far as I can tell, these parts of Section 13, and maybe also Sections 3 and 11, have a somewhat unique status in the Eastern Agency area. I am hoping that you might be able to clarify for me what the status of this area is, or point me to additional sources of information.

Thank you in advance for any assistance you can offer. Please feel free to give me a call if you want to discuss.

Sarah

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